

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
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December 7, 2010

According to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's 2009 Homeless Count, 48,053 people are homeless throughout the County on any given night. Nearly 12,000 individuals are chronically homeless throughout our region, comprising approximately 25% of the County's homeless population. Over 7,400 veterans are homeless on any given night, and 1,400 of these veterans are chronically homeless.

Chronically homeless individuals are those persons who have been homeless for a year or more and are faced with one or more disabilities, including serious health, mental health, and/or substance abuse problems. These individuals are our most vulnerable residents, at great risk of dying if nothing is done.

Permanent supportive housing has proven to be a successful model which combines supportive services with housing to help chronically homeless individuals stabilize and thrive.

The Business Leaders Task Force on Homelessness has just released "Home For Good, The Action Plan to End Chronic and Veteran Homelessness by 2016." This

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is a joint initiative of United Way of Greater Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Task Force reports that currently, our public systems invest \$875 million each year to manage homelessness in our region rather than end it. Three quarters of this amount is consumed by chronically homeless individuals, who comprise one quarter of the total homeless population. These high costs result from the frequent usage of emergency rooms, jails, and other crisis services. Most homeless individuals do not become housed or stabilized as a result of their encounters with these systems.

“Home For Good” offers a comprehensive plan to permanently and supportively house 12,000 chronically homeless individuals (including 1,400 chronically homeless veterans) and 6,000 newly homeless veterans by 2016. The report concludes that: “We can no longer afford a fragmented system. We will only be able to end chronic and veteran homelessness in our region by aligning our goals.”

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board:

1. Declare that it is a countywide priority to create permanent supportive housing and to end chronic and veteran homelessness within five years; and
2. Endorse the efforts of the Business Leaders Task Force on Homelessness and its partners to end chronic and veteran homelessness in Los Angeles County by 2016; and
3. Direct the CEO to instruct the Departments of Health Services, Mental Health, Public Health, Public Social Services and the Community Development Commission to review the Home For Good Action Plan and prioritize recommendations to be implemented; and
4. Direct the CEO to work with these departments to identify resources that can be

integrated and realigned with permanent housing opportunities to create permanent supportive housing;

5. Direct the CEO to report back within 30 days.

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